

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 2272

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SUBJECT IS DRAFT REPORT ON PREPARATIONS FOR BELGRADE: APRIL 19
POLADS DISCUSSION OF A) TARGET DATE ISSUE; B) CBMS THEMES

REF A. STATE 087354; B. USNATO 2238; C. USNATO 2151

SUMMARY: DUE TO CONTINUED DANISH INSISTENCE ON LANGUAGE CONCERNING
TARGET DATE PROPOSED AT APRIL 15 POLADS MEETING, REF B) THIS MATTER
WILL BE DISCUSSED AT APRIL 20 NAC MEETING. ACTION REQUEST: SEE PARA
5.
END SUMMARY.

1. AT APRIL 19 POLADS DISCUSSION, WE DREW FULLY ON PARAS 1 AND 2
OF REF A AND EMPHASIZED US OPPOSITION TO AGREEMENT TO A CUT-OFF
DATE IN ANY FORM FOR BELGRADE MAIN MEETING. US POSITION WAS STRONGLY
SUPPORTED BY NETHERLANDS REP. IN ENSUING DISCUSSION, ALL ALLIES
EXPRESSED WILLINGNESS TO ACCEPT SENTENCE ON THIS SUBJECT WHICH HAD
BEEN PROPOSED AT APRIL 13 POLADS MEETING (REF C, PARA 1), I.E., "FOR
EXAMPLE, THE ALLIES MIGHT, IF THE SITUATION SO WARRANTS, SUPPORT A
TARGET DATE, E.G., CHRISTMAS, WITH TERMINATION TO BE AGREED BY
CONSENSUS".

2. DANISH REP MAINTAINED THAT HER AUTHORITIES STRONGLY OPPOSED THE
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PRECEDING FORMULATION AND BELIEVED IT IMPORTANT FOR THE ALLIES,
EARLY IN THE BELGRADE PREPARATORY MEETING, TO AGREE UPON A TARGET
DATE. OTHERWISE, SHE EXPLAINED, THERE WOULD BE CONSIDERABLE RISK
THAT SOME PARTICIPANT WITH SPECIAL AX TO GRIND, FOR EXAMPLE,
MALT, COULD DRAG OUT PROCEEDINGS INTERMINABLY. SHE ARGUED THAT
INTERNAL ALLIED AGREEMENT TO SET A TARGET DATE DID NOT IMPLY PRIOR
AGREEMENT TO A DATE FOR TERMINATION, SINCE THIS COULD BE ACHIEVED
ONLY BY CONSENSUS AT BELGRADE.

3. WHILE FRG, FRENCH, AND GREEK REPS INDICATED THEIR AUTHRITIES

AGREED WITH DENMARK REGARDING DESIRABILITY OF ESTABLISHING A TARGET DATE, THEY--AND ALL OTHER REPS-- SAID THEIR AUTHORITIES COULD ACCEPT FORMULATION QUOTED IN PARA 1 ABOVE. DANISH REP REPLIED HER FIRM INSTRUCTIONS WERE TO CONTINUE TO SUPPORT SENTENCE TENTATIVELY AGREED ON AT APRIL 15 POLADS MEETING AND NOW INCORPORATED INTO DRAFT THAT WILL BE SUBMITTED TO THE NAC ON APRIL 20 (C-M(77)29--SEE SEPTTEL) I.W., "IN THIS CONTEXT, THE ALLIES WILL NEED TO DECIDE WHETHER OR NOT TO SUPPORT A TARGET DATE FOR TERMINATION OF THE MAIN MEETING".

4. NOTING THAT DANISH REP HAD DRAWN A DISTINCTION BETWEEN CONCEPT OF "TARGET DATE" AND THAT OF "TERMINATION DATE", TURKISH REP PROPOSED THE FOLLOWING THIRD ALTERNATIVE FORMULATION. " THE ALLIES MIGHT, IF THE SITUATION SO WARRANTS, , SUPPORT A TARGET DATE. THE CLOSING DATE IS TO BE AGREED BY CONSENSUS."

5. COMMENT AND ACTION REQUEST: AT APRIL 20 NAC, WE WILL CONTINUE TO DRAW ON INSTRUCTIONS IN REF A AND FIRMLY COUNTER DANISH ARGUMENT IF COPENHAGEN STANDS FAST. WE WOULD, HOWEVER, APPRECIATE WASHINGTON GUIDANCE ON THIRD ALTERNATIVE FORMULATION SUGGESTED BY THE TURKS IF VIEWEMERGES AT NAC THAT THIS WOULD BE AN ACCEPTABLE FALL BACK. END COMMENT.

6. PER PARA 3 OF REF A, WE ALSO RAISED ISSUE OF CBMS THEMES FOR INCLUSION IN PAPER AND SUGGESTED THAT IS DRAW ON LIST OF THEMES US HAD SUBMITTED TO ALLIES EARLIER THIS YEAR.
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7. AFTER CONSIDERABLE DISCUSSION, SOME REPS POINTED OUT THAT PARA 52 OF C-M(77)29 ALREADY MENTIONS CBMS IDEAS ON WHICH MOST ALLIES CAN AGREE. AT US INSISTENCE, POLADS AGREED THAT THIS PARA BE RE-DRAFTED AS FOLLOWS SO AS TO EMPHASIZE THE CONCEPT OF THOSE PRESENTATIONAL THEMES ON WHICH ALLIES CURRENTLY AGREE:
BEGIN TEXT: "A COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF IMPLEMENTATION OF CONFIDENCE BUILDING MEASURES SHOULD BE THE PRIMARY FOCUS OF ALLIED EFFORTS AT BELGRADE IN THIS AREA. IN THEIR PRESENTATIONS ALLIED COUNTRIES MIGHT STRESS THE FOLLOWING THEMES, INTER ALIA: THE LIBERAL PRACTICE OF ALLIED COUNTRIES CONCERNED, IN CONTRAST WITH EASTERN COUNTRIES, IN THE NOTIFICATION OF SMALLER-SCALE MANEUVERS, THE INVITATION AND TREATMENT OF OBSERVERS, AND THE ACCEPTANCE OF INVITATIONS RECEIVED." END TEXT STRAUSSZ-HUPE

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